



Programs and Events

Winter & Spring 2015

Daily Programs ~~~~~

Our daily programs, which are listed in the table below, are free of charge and for all ages. They are available for drop-in visits by individuals and small groups (fewer than 5 participants). Unless otherwise noted below, they are also offered to larger, organized groups, such as schools, camps, and home school organizations. Reservations are required for these large group visits and must be made at least two weeks in advance. Unforeseen circumstances cause programs to be cancelled occasionally without prior notice.

	Sunday (No reservations needed)	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday (No reservations needed)
10:00	Meet the Cow	Meet the Cow (except 3 rd Mon of month)	Meet the Cow (drop-in visitors only... no groups)	Farm Morning (2 nd and 4 th Wed of month only) Meet the Cow (1 st , 3 rd , and 5 th Wed of month only)	Meet the Cow	Meet the Cow	Meet the Cow
11:00	Wagon Ride	Wagon Ride (except 3 rd Mon of month)	Wagon Ride (drop-in visitors only... no groups)	Wagon Ride (1 st , 3 rd , and 5 th Wed of month only)	Wagon Ride	Wagon Ride	Wagon Ride
11:30	Chicken & Egg	Chicken & Egg (except 3 rd Mon of month)	Chicken & Egg (drop-in visitors only... no groups)	Chicken & Egg (1 st , 3 rd , and 5 th Wed of month only)	Chicken & Egg	Chicken & Egg	Chicken & Egg
2:00- 3:30	The Park's Past						The Park's Past

Chicken & Egg
Participants will learn about hens and roosters and their life on the farm. They will feed the chickens and see inside the chicken coop.
Limit: 30 participants.

Meet the Cow
Participants will help the park ranger milk the cow and learn about cattle and dairy products.
Limit: 50 participants.

Wagon Ride
Participants will take a scenic ride through the park and learn about the environment and the park's history.
Limit: 50 participants.

Farm Morning
Participants will visit stations around the farm area and experience hands-on activities, such as milking the cow, feeding the chickens, and grinding corn. Wagon rides will be available.
Limit: 100 participants.

The Park's Past: An Invitation to Learn the Story of Oxon Cove Park
Participants will see inside the Mount Welby farmhouse and hear some of the fascinating stories that have occurred on the property over the years.
Drop-in program. No Limit.



Education Programs ~~~~~

Our education programs, which are described below, are free of charge. They are offered only to organized groups, such as schools, camps, and home school organizations. Reservations are required and must be made at least two weeks in advance.

Exploring the Past at Oxon Cove Park *For students in Kindergarten through Grade 6*

This program is held at 10:00 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, from October through June. Students will discover what life was like on Mount Welby plantation during the early 1800s. Teachers can choose from fourteen activities based on three overall themes: Slavery and the Underground Railroad, the War of 1812, and Immigration. Pre-site-visit and post-site-visit activities are required to be completed by students. *Limit: 30 participants.*

Animal Life on the Farm *For students in Preschool through Grade 1*

This program is held at 10:00 on Tuesdays, from October through June. Students will learn about farm animals and agricultural products. They will meet the dairy cow, feed the chickens, and take a wagon ride through the barnyard area. Prior to the trip, the teacher will pick up an education kit with pre-visit hands-on activities for use in the classroom. *Limit: 30 participants.*

Oxon Hill Farm is located at 6411 Oxon Hill Road, Oxon Hill, MD, 20745. For more information, call 301.839.1176 or visit <http://www.nps.gov/oxhi>.

Special Events ~~~~~

January

**Reading Stories with Ranger Steph:
Four Seasons on the Farm**
Sunday, January 18, 2015, 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. and
Monday, January 19, 2015, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.
Ages 0 to 4, and accompanying adults

At Oxon Cove Park every third Sunday and Monday of the month, come listen to stories, sing songs, and enjoy other activities. This month, celebrate the coming of 2015 with a look at all four seasons of the year. Find out why sheep love the winter and why Ranger Steph loves the summer. What’s YOUR favorite season? Meet in the Visitor Barn.

March

Who Was Rachel Carson?
Sunday, March 8, 2015, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Ages 6 to 13, and accompanying adults

Celebrate Women’s History Month with a visit to Oxon Cove Park, and discover Rachel Carson, whose ground-breaking book *Silent Spring* met with fierce opposition from chemical companies, but ultimately led to a reversal in national pesticide policy and the creation of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Learn about this important environmentalist who inspired activism and is credited with bringing the bald eagle back from the brink of extinction. Meet in the Visitor Barn.

Sunday Shoreline Sweep-ups

Sundays, January 4, February 1, March 1, and April 5, 2015,
1:00 – 3:30 p.m.
All ages are welcome, but young people under age 18 must be supervised by an adult.

Every first Sunday of the month, join Ranger Steph and your fellow park-lovers as we clean up the trash that finds its way onto the banks of Oxon Cove. Spend your afternoon in the fresh air, getting some exercise and making a visible difference. Earn service hours needed for your organization. Wear old clothes and shoes that you don’t mind getting wet and muddy. We will provide work gloves. Come alone or bring a group! Come once or every month! Meet in the parking lot, no later than 1:30. This event is canceled if the weather is inclement.



**Reading Stories with Ranger Steph:
Oinkers at Oxon Hill Farm**
Sunday, March 15, 2015, 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. and
Monday, March 16, 2015, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.
Ages 0 to 4, and accompanying adults

At Oxon Cove Park every third Sunday and Monday of the month, come listen to stories, sing songs, and enjoy other activities. This month, go hog wild with Ranger Steph as she takes a closer look at those famous Three Little Pigs and other swine sweeties. Meet in the Visitor Barn.

Celebrate National Agriculture Day!
Wednesday, March 18, 2015, 10:00 am. –1:00 pm.
All ages

Food, clothing, fuel... many of the essential products we use every day originate on a farm. On National Agriculture Day, we recognize the abundance of agriculture. So come on out to Oxon Hill Farm and celebrate with us! Take a walk throughout the farm area and see how farming has shaped human customs, cultures, and societies, and how working on a farm has changed over time. Meet the farm animals, enjoy a wagon ride, learn how a cow is milked, and enjoy other activities.

Student Lecture Series on Race and Social Justice
Saturday, March 21, 2015, 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.
All Ages

Oxon Cove Park has partnered with a number of local high schools and colleges to present our Student Lecture Series on Race and Social Justice. This monthly program features scholarly presentations from students on the various topics that impact the African American community and are relevant to all. At the conclusion of each lecture a ranger-led discussion will be held. We welcome you to join us as we bring the community together to support the works of our youth. The program will be held in the education room at Oxon Cove Park’s Mount Welby home. Call today to reserve your spot!

April

**Alice Ferguson Foundation’s 27th Annual
Potomac River Watershed Clean-up at Oxon
Cove Park**
Saturday, April 11, 2015, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
All ages are welcome, but young people under age 18 must be supervised by an adult.

Oxon Cove Park is just one of hundreds of sites participating in the annual AFF clean-up. Do your part to help clean up the Potomac River Watershed by picking up trash down at the cove. Earn service hours needed for your organization! Wear old clothes and shoes that you don’t mind getting wet and muddy. We’ll provide the work gloves. Meet in the parking lot, no later than 9:30. For more information, go to www.fergusonfoundation.org.

Student Lecture Series on Race and Social Justice
Saturday, April 18, 2015, 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.
All Ages

Oxon Cove Park has partnered with a number of local high schools and colleges to present our Student Lecture Series on Race and Social Justice. This monthly program features scholarly presentations from students on the various topics that impact the African American community and are relevant to all. At the conclusion of each lecture a ranger-led discussion will be held. We welcome you to join us as we bring the community together to support the works of our youth. The program will be held in the education room at Oxon Cove Park’s Mount Welby home. Call today to reserve your spot!

**Reading Stories with Ranger Steph:
What a Wonderful World!**
Sunday, April 19, 2015, 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. and
Monday, April 20, 2015, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.
Ages 0 to 4, and accompanying adults

At Oxon Cove Park every third Sunday and Monday of the month, come listen to stories, sing songs, and enjoy other activities. This month, get ready for Earth Day as we focus on our wonderful world and how we can keep it wonderful. It’s never too early to start being a steward of our national parks. Meet Ranger Steph in the Visitor Barn.

February: Celebrate African American History Month!

Civil Rights: Why Are We Still Talking About This in 2015?
Sunday, February 8, 2015, 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.
Ages 7 to 13

One weakness of the Bill of Rights was that it largely left unprotected the majority of people who lived on the Mount Welby property, present-day Oxon Hill Farm. Who were these unsheltered people and why were they not protected by our Constitution’s first ten amendments? We will also discuss what actions the government has taken since the Bill of Rights to protect all citizens’ civil rights and why civil rights is still an important topic in 2015.

**Reading Stories with Ranger Steph:
West African Tales for Your Ding Ding Kende (Good Little Child)**

Sunday, February 15, 2015, 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. and
Monday, February 16, 2015, 9:30 – 10:30 a.m.
Ages 0 to 4, and accompanying adults

At Oxon Cove Park every third Sunday and Monday of the month, come listen to stories, sing songs, and enjoy other activities. For Black History Month, meet Clever Anansi, Boastful Bullfrog, and other characters from West African oral tradition. For centuries, *griots* have delighted children with these colorful tales, full of rhythm, music, and opportunities for listener participation. Storytelling was an important connection that the enslaved could share with their ancestors and with each other. Meet Ranger Steph in the Visitor Barn.

Student Lecture Series on Race and Social Justice
Saturday, February 21, 2015, 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.
All Ages

Oxon Cove Park has partnered with a number of local high schools and colleges to present our Student Lecture Series on Race and Social Justice. This monthly program features scholarly presentations from students on the various topics that impact the African American community and are relevant to all. At the conclusion of each lecture a ranger-led discussion will be held. We welcome you to join us as we bring the community together to support the works of our youth. The program will be held in the education room at Oxon Cove Park’s Mount Welby home. Call today to reserve your spot!

Learning How to Crochet
Sunday, February 22, 2015, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Ages 12 years and up

In 19th-century America, many women engaged in some form of needlework, especially in winter. African American women sewed and knitted out of necessity in order to keep their families clothed and warm. Enslaved women and girls spent daytime hours mending clothes and making quilts for the members of the master’s household. At night when they returned home, enslaved women stitched communal quilts and did other needlework together. This was one of the few times enslaved African Americans were allowed to gather together for pleasure or to express their creativity. To celebrate this tradition, come to Oxon Cove Park and learn a simple crochet stitch that can be used to create a blanket or pot holder. Meet in the Visitor Barn.

Book Discussion: Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl by Harriet Jacobs
Saturday, February 28, 2015, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.
All ages are welcome, but discussion may involve adult subjects.

From the late 1600s to the early 1800s, slaveholders owned the property that is now Oxon Cove Park and they prospered from the labor of the slaves that worked on this farm. Unfortunately, no information about the lives of these enslaved people survives in their own words. We do, however, have written accounts of slaves on other plantations. Join us in the Visitor Barn for a discussion about the book *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl* by Harriet Jacobs to learn more about her experiences as a slave in North Carolina in the early 1800s and her efforts to escape to the North.